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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS

☁ Friday	76°   65°
☁ Saturday	78°   63°
☀ Sunday	79°   63°
☀ Monday	79°   62°
☀ Tuesday	81°   64°
☀ Wednesday	81°   64°
☀ Thursday	80°   64°

## Council Reviews Wildfire Assessment, Demands Action

BY MICHAEL WITTNER

After returning to in-person meetings for their July 15 session, the Beverly Hills City Council returned to a virtual format on July 27. The Council spent the majority of time at its Regular Meeting reviewing the Wildfire Assessment Report. The 57-page report on the city's fire risks and responses was released July 9. After discussing the report in detail with Beverly Hills Fire Chief Greg Barton,

Director of Public Works Shana Epstein, Urban Forest Manager Ken Pfalzgraf, and four expert consultants, Councilmembers praised the report's thoroughness, but questioned what exactly will come of it, and when.

"The report has many elements of an action plan, but I don't think it really is a fully-fledged action plan," Mayor Robert Wunderlich said at the end of the meeting.

"It has recommendations, it has assessments, but an action plan would get more specific. The report has many tactics, but it's really not an action plan that's prioritized in terms of, let's start with doing these things, and we'll get these things accomplished by certain time periods."

(Wildfire Assessment continues on page 15)



The City Council praised the Wildfire Assessment Report's thoroughness, but requested a more concrete action plan

## Community Tries Out Protected Roxbury Drive Bike Lane

BY MICHAEL WITTNER

Imagine a bike ride around busy Beverly Hills - from a future Metro station on Wilshire, up to the Business Triangle, all the way up to Sunset Boulevard, to describe just one possible far-ranging route - completely free of fear.

It may sound far-fetched, but on a cool, breezy Sunday morning, the city took a step in that direction by inviting the community to test out a protected bike lane along Roxbury Drive, right next to Roxbury Park. Starting at 10 a.m. on July 25, about 50 cyclists sped along the bike lane, which was buffered by delineators running along Roxbury Drive from Olympic Boulevard to the city limit near Peck Drive. The city hosted the event to hear what its residents thought of the protected lane. While survey results have

not yet been tabulated, residents so far seem impressed.

"It was fabulous - it was a real kick," Beverly Hills resident and Health and Safety Commission Chair Cathy Baker told the Courier. "Being able to come down this proposed designated bike lane on Roxbury and feel protected: there's nothing like it."

That's good news for the city's Transportation Department, which is proposing a "Holistic Bikeway Network" as part of the Complete Streets Plan, a comprehensive vision the City Council approved in April that aims to make the city more accessible to cyclists and pedestrians.

(Roxbury Drive Bike Lane continues on page 13)

## Freedom Rally Founder Gets Community Service for Unpermitted Gatherings

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW

Shiva Bagheri, the founder and organizer of the Beverly Hills Freedom rally, has reached a judicial diversion agreement with the City of Beverly Hills for holding unpermitted gatherings in the city.

(Freedom Rally Founder continues on page 7)

# Courier Calendar

NOW – AUG. 1  
**FELIX ART FAIR LA 2021**  
*11 a.m.-8p.m.*

Celebrate the Los Angeles arts community at the Felix Art Fair at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. The art fair will showcase 29 Los Angeles-based galleries, and guests can view the art in poolside cabanas for a safe and comfortable outdoor/indoor environment. Felix coincides with the first Los Angeles Gallery Weekend. The event was co-founded in 2019 by Dean Valentine, Al Morán and Mills Morán, and this is the third edition of the fair.  
<https://Felixfair.com>



NOW – AUG. 7  
**LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE: "PARK AFTER DARK"**

The Department of Arts and Culture and LA County Parks combine live performance and art activities with the "Park After Dark" sites. With 204 live music performances, there are 33 local parks offering the safe, free, family-friendly community arts program. Art workshops will bring writing, dance, theater, and art activities to these outdoor spaces. This year will include the largest musical collaboration to date. The free concerts feature bands of different genres, including R&B, Caribbean ensembles, roots rock, and mariachi.  
<https://www.lacountyarts.org/>



JULY 30 - AUG. 1  
**FLOW ART BY GIGI GARNER**  
**ACCA GALLERY**

ACCA Gallery presents an exhibition of original works by Gigi Garner during Art Week LA of 2021. Although a new artist, Garner gives extraordinary form to emotion with her vivid imagery. Her use of color and recognizable patterns explore deeply personal realms and her unusual and mysterious painting techniques make her work unique. All proceeds from the sale of the artworks will be donated to the James Garner Animal Rescue Fund in honor of Gigi's father, the legendary actor James Garner. The Fund helps rescue animals around the world. ACCA Gallery is located at 468 North Camden Drive in Beverly Hills. An artist reception takes place July 31 at 1 p.m.  
<https://www.artistscorner.us/upcoming-exhibition>

JULY 30 – AUG. 10  
**THE EL CAPITAN THEATRE: DISNEY'S "JUNGLE CRUISE"**  
*Showings at 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 10:30 p.m.*

Shown in Dolby Vision Laser Projection and Dolby Atmos Audio Technology, Disney's "Jungle Cruise" will be presented by Hollywood's El Capitan Theatre. Guests will have the opportunity to see costumes from the movie and to take a picture at a "Jungle Cruise" themed photo op. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$18 for children or seniors.  
<https://www.elcapitantickets.com>  
<https://www.fandango.com/el-capitan-theatre-aacon/theater-page>



JULY 31  
**PLANTOPIA: PLANT AND POTTERY MARKETPLACE AT UNION STATION**  
*10 a.m.-3 p.m.*

At Union Station, visit Plantopia, a plant and pottery marketplace for a day of all things botanical. Guests will learn about the art of indoor gardening, and the event will feature different types of plants from many different vendors. Activities will also take place, including a Plant Doctor Q&A with Cillie Barnes (also known as THE BLACK THUMB) who inspires guests to keep their plants alive, a "Dig in the Dirt" station, and a green décor demonstration from Danae Horst, plant stylist, author and founder of plant styling studio and boutique Folia Collective. Free advance tickets are required, and walk-ins will be welcomed on a first-come, first-served basis.  
<https://unionstationla.com/happenings/plantopia>

JULY 31 – NOV. 6  
**WILL GEER'S THEATRICUM BOTANICUM: "THE LAST, BEST SMALL TOWN"**

The world premiere of "The Last, Best Small Town" by Los Angeles-based Latinx playwright John Guerra will take place on July 31 at Will Geer's Theatricum Botanicum. The performance is a modern-day "Our Town." Two neighboring families, one Latinx and one white, live in the town of Fillmore, the self-proclaimed "The Last, Best Small Town in Southern California." The children of these families come of age, fall in love and suffer loss in a world that can no longer promise them a better life than their parents had. On Aug. 28, there will be a prologue, pre-show discussion, from 6:30-7 p.m., and it is included in the ticket price.  
<https://theatricum.com/>

AUG. 1  
**GREEK THEATRE: JOE BONAMASSA**  
*8 p.m.*

Joe Bonamassa will perform at the Greek Theatre on Aug. 1. The two-time GRAMMY-nominated blues rock guitarist will play his 22nd #1 Billboard Blues album "Live At The Sydney Opera House." Bonamassa has almost single-handedly redefined the genre of blues-rock and brought it to the mainstream. He will be backed by a band of legendary musicians and feature soulful background singers in order to bring a new life to the show, which will include new songs as well as career-spanning favorites.  
<https://www.ticketmaster.com/event/090058528A481DC2>



AUG. 3  
**WRITER'S BLOC: JACOB SOBOROFF IN CONVERSATION WITH CAROL LEONNIG AND PHIL RUCKER**  
*Free Livestream 6 p.m.*

Carol Leonnig and Phil Rucker, authors of the #1 bestseller "A Very Stable Genius," are back with another exclusive account of Trump's final year in office called "I Alone Can Fix It." Leonnig, national investigative reporter at The Washington Post and longtime news contributor to NBC/MSNBC News, and Rucker, senior Washington correspondent for The Washington Post and NBC/MSNBC news analyst, enjoyed unparalleled access to those who sat close to the president and to Trump as well. Their White House and Washington sources fill in gaps on Trump's last year in office. Leonnig and Rucker have covered numerous presidential elections, election interference and security issues and have earned Pulitzers and other distinguished awards for their journalism. The event is moderated by award-winning NBC/MSNBC correspondent Jacob Soboroff, whose book "Separated" exposed the plight of children at the border.  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/writersbloc-presents-carol-leonnig-and-philrucker-tickets-162935130361>

AUG. 4- SEPT. 9  
**CONCERTS ON CANON BEVERLY CANON GARDENS**  
*6-8 p.m.*

The Concerts on Canon summer series kicks off on Aug. 4 and continues every Thursday through Sept. 9. The much-beloved musical event is a place for the community to enjoy great bands in a beautiful setting. The season's lineup includes Rod Lightning & the Thunderbolts of Love on Aug. 4; Country Nation on Aug. 12; Bill Rotella and the Earthtones on Aug. 19; Singular Nature on Aug. 26; Joyce Partise Sept. 2 and Music Carolyn on Sept. 9. The bands will play from 6 - 7 p.m., followed by a 15-minute intermission and continue until 8 p.m.

Chairs will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis, but there is plenty of seating on the large, grassy area for blankets. Guests can purchase food at the nearby eateries or bring a picnic-packed meal and enjoy the concert while dining. Beverly Canon Gardens is located on Canon Drive adjacent to The Maybourne Beverly Hills. Parking is available adjacent to Beverly Canon Gardens.  
[www.beverlyhills.org/concertsoncanon](http://www.beverlyhills.org/concertsoncanon)



AUG. 5 – SEPT. 6  
**THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AND THE WALLIS PRESENT SING FOR HOPE PIANOS**

The city of Beverly Hills and the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts have partnered to present Sing for Hope Pianos. Some 16 artist-designed pianos will be located in Beverly Hills parks and public spaces. The public can play, interact with, and enjoy the pianos, designed by Los Angeles-based visual artists. They will be placed throughout the city in areas such as Beverly Hills City Hall, Beverly Gardens Park, the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, Will Rogers Memorial Park, La Cienega Park, and Roxbury Park. At the conclusion of the program, the pianos will be moved in the fall to public schools across the greater Los Angeles area.  
<https://singforhope.org>



AUG. 19-21  
**THE WALLIS FEATURES VERSA-STYLE DANCE COMPANY IN "BOX OF HOPE"**  
*8 p.m.*

Versa-Style Dance Company makes its debut at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts with its latest hip-hop dance-theater production, "Box of Hope." The performance takes place on The Wallis' outdoor stage. "Box of Hope" explores themes that deal with the inequalities in today's volatile social climate - specifically within underserved communities - through the lens of the sounds of Motown. Versa-Style taps into the timeless nature of this struggle reflected through the music of Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, The Temptations, and other artists who sang about these issues in the 1970s.  
[www.thewallis.org](http://www.thewallis.org)

# SING FOR HOPE PIANOS BEVERLY HILLS

**AUG 5 – SEPT 6**

Come out and play! For anyone and everyone to enjoy! Located in parks and public spaces throughout Beverly Hills.

**LAUNCH EVENT**

**August 5, 2021 – 6-8pm**

**Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts**

Marc and Eva Stern Arrival Court

9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd.

Beverly Hills, CA 90210

This is an outdoor event.

Parking available at 450 N. Rexford Dr. No charge after 5pm.

[www.singforhope.org/beverlyhills](http://www.singforhope.org/beverlyhills)



Top to bottom: Piano artists Jordy Lievers-Eaton, Nick Stavrides, Christopher Wong.

**Thank you to our artists:** Adam Rodgers, Alexandra Nechita, Bendow, Chaz Guest, Çigdem Akbay, Gooley, Helena Faitelson, Laishan Mui Ito, Laurie Tsou, Marisabel Bazan, The Miracle Project with GRoW @ The Wallis, Mireille Fournier, Ms. Yellow, Punk Me Tender, Sheila Darcey, Yalda Sepahpour; **Thank you to our jurors:** Holly Baril, Agnes Lew, Joan Quinn, Lauren Bergman Siegel, Kate Stern, Torie Zalben; **Thank you to our performers:** the Debbie Allen Dance Academy, Shilla Hekmat Music Academy, Tommy Coster, Herman Jackson & Wayne Linsey.

**Special thanks to the following sponsors for their generous support:**

Bob Barth, Pamela and Dennis Beck, Hon. Lili and Jon Bosse, Shawn and Jackline Far, Deborah and Andy Frank, The Kara Love Project, Linda May and Jack Suzar, The Maybourne Hotel Beverly Hills, Daphna Nazarian, Gabriel Perez, Kevin Philip, Hon. Vicki Reynolds and Murray Pepper, Annette and Marc Saleh, Marc Selwyn, Kathleen Silverman, TZ Projects, The Kranzberg Art Foundation, Stephanie and Leon Vahn, Jonathan Victor, Richard and May Ziman

Liquitex is the Official Paint Sponsor for Sing for Hope Pianos and have generously provided paint for each of the artists. Studio space was also generously donated by Beverly Hills Tower, LLC, providing a communal space for the artists to work. Sing for Hope's programs are made possible by The National Endowment for the Arts; The Sing for Hope Founders' Circle, including The International Foundation for Arts and Culture (Dr. Haruhisa Handa, Chairman, Sing for Hope Global Patron), The Arnhold Foundation in loving memory of Sissy and Henry Arnhold, The Thea Petschek Iervolino Foundation, The Anna-Maria & Stephen Kellen Foundation, The Kranzberg Arts Foundation, and Ann Ziff; Fosun International; and the generosity of donors like you!

**All Sing for Hope Pianos will be donated this fall to public schools throughout Los Angeles.**

**This program is a collaboration of the City of Beverly Hills, the Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts and Sing for Hope.**

For more information, visit [www.singforhope.org/beverlyhills](http://www.singforhope.org/beverlyhills)

#singforhope #BHArtsandCulture



## GLAUDI's Drive-Thru Fashion Show Brightens Brighton

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW



Cars drove past models in the unconventional GLAUDI fashion show.

While Brighton Way, located in the heart of the Golden Triangle, is no stranger to style or glamour, the street transformed into a literal fashion show on July 25. The couture formalwear designer GLAUDI by Johana Hernandez held a drive-thru fashion show on Brighton Way just off Rodeo Drive to celebrate its 10th anniversary and its latest line, complete with 30 models in resplendent bridal dresses, evening gowns, and bespoke suits.

Hernandez has spent her life in clothing. Her parents, who migrated from El Salvador, worked in garment factories producing items for Calvin Klein and Tommy Hilfiger. She began designing clothes herself at a young age, attending the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) before working at brands like Seven7 and Lane Bryant. At 24, she founded GLAUDI, named after her mother, Gladis (in attendance at the show).

Hernandez has been involved in fashion shows her whole life, but she realized that the affairs would not be the same after the pandemic. No more indoor catwalks with throngs of fans, press, and celebrities crowding close together. But she was also put

off by the virtual alternatives some brands opted for.

"I feel like fashion shows are made to see in person, because you have to look at the clothes, you have to send a message through how you present your collection," Hernandez told the Courier.

But as the pandemic progressed, Hernandez noted how different forms of live entertainment innovated to keep audiences safe. For her show, she drew inspiration from drive-thru movies and shows where she "could bring my mom, my cousins, and we just go in one car."

Hernandez wanted the show to do more than just celebrate her designs—she wanted to celebrate the idea of celebration itself after more than a year of canceled plans, delayed reunions, and virtual parties. "This whole fashion show was inspired to celebrate family and to inspire people to celebrate again," she said.

After six months of planning and a few postponements, she felt the show went better than she could have anticipated. "It was magical," she said.

The show set up small stages down



Model Natalie Huerta posing in a wedding gown designed by Johana Hernandez.

## Council Votes to Approve Courier's Legal Advertising Bid

BY MICHAEL WITTNER

The Beverly Hills City Council unanimously awarded the Fiscal Year 2021/22 Legal Advertising and Notices Bid to the Beverly Hills Courier at a July 27 study session.

The Council also voted to require the city's three adjudicated newspapers - papers legally authorized to publish legal advertising for a designated area - to place most legal notices and display ads in the first ten pages of each paper.

A Staff Report had floated the notion that the papers be required to place city ads and notices in the first 10% of the paper. But the publishers protested that this was

unrealistic.

"This year, there's talk about 10 percent," said Courier Publisher Lisa Bloch at the July 27 Study Session meeting. "Because of COVID, we've been averaging 20 to 24 pages. Ten percent is two pages. That means the front page, and page two. That automatically affects our premium - our ability to lock in a premium price for page two."

Councilmembers agreed that 10% would be unrealistic, and the idea went no further. (Courier's Legal Advertising Bid continues on page 9)

## Wunderlich Launches Wellness Wednesdays in Beverly Hills

City of Beverly Hills Mayor Bob Wunderlich is launching "Wellness Wednesdays," a new mayoral initiative that aims to inspire the community to get outside and participate in free exercise and healthy lifestyle activities, enjoy wholesome foods from local businesses and incorporate wellness into their everyday lives.

"Wellness Wednesdays" will kick off on Wednesday, August 4 at 8 a.m. at Roxbury Park, 471 S. Roxbury Drive with Total Body Conditioning taught by Burt Bulos. This workout is designed to provide moderate to challenging exercise using one's own body weight for overall conditioning. Participants are encouraged to bring a mat, towel and bottled water.

The second "Wellness Wednesday" is planned for August 18, 2021 at 8 a.m. with a Pickleball Clinic at La Cienega Tennis Center located at 325 La Cienega Boulevard. Certified instructors will provide basic instruction in this ideal sport for kids, families, active adults and seniors. Pickleball is

a racquet sport that combines tennis, badminton and ping-pong. Equipment will be provided.

"I'm passionate about the well-being of our community and I hope 'Wellness Wednesdays' provides people with healthy options, both mentally and physically, that can be incorporated into their daily routine," said Wunderlich.

Businesses are encouraged to participate in Wellness Wednesdays by providing services, such as fitness instructors, or food items, like healthy snacks. Businesses that would like to participate or anyone with questions can email [wellnesswednesdays@beverlyhills.org](mailto:wellnesswednesdays@beverlyhills.org), or call 310-285-1014.

Watch for ongoing classes and activities for "Wellness Wednesdays" at alternating locations around the City to bring the community together in a safe and healthy way. To stay informed about upcoming "Wellness Wednesdays," visit [www.beverlyhills.org/wellnesswednesdays](http://www.beverlyhills.org/wellnesswednesdays). ●

Brighton Way, where models wearing GLAUDI stood, sat, and in one instance, swung. The Beverly Hills Police Department closed off the street from Rodeo to North Camden Drive, allowing crowds to mingle, gawk at the clothing, and enjoy crepes and cotton candy. But when the main event began, organizers cleared the street to allow permitted cars through to peer out onto the beaming, waving models. After all the cars had passed, Brighton turned into a block party deejayed by one of GLAUDI's own models, Esther Anaya, who played along with the music on her electric violin. The models represented a range of sizes, shapes, and ages, in line with GLAUDI's mission of inclusivity.

Others agreed with Johana's assessment, including Mayor Robert Wunderlich, who attended the show. "What Johana brings to her clothing is imagination," he told the

Courier. "You can see it in what she's doing tonight. What an imaginative way to celebrate her imaginative designs."

"It's a great use of public space to be able to liven up the city."

Vice Mayor Lili Bosse, who advocated for nightlife in Beverly Hills through her Beverly Hills Open Later Days (BOLD) initiative and also went to the show, said the event represented the future of the city.

"What Johana has done is so out of the box, so visionary, truly creative, and really represents what Beverly Hills is made of," she told the Courier. "During COVID, there were some blessings. It forced us to think creatively and I believe that this model that she has created for us today is a wonderful jumping off point for other businesses and our community to keep reimagining our city." ●

# Beverly Hills City Hall Tower Retrofit Underway

BY CARL ROBINETTE



The gilded cupola at the top of the Beverly Hills City Hall tower shines bright about an hour before sunset. Photo by Carl Robinette

From the ninth floor of the tower at Beverly Hills City Hall, the traffic on Santa Monica Boulevard is quiet. Rodeo Drive and the surrounding shopping district look tiny. Inside, the ninth floor is stripped to bare walls and deserted. The iconic tower was closed in 1989 and has stood abandoned for more than 30 years. Now that is about to change.

A multi-phase project to reoccupy the tower with city offices is underway, and key to the restoration is a seismic retrofit slated to start in the next few weeks. It is expected to take nine to 10 months and cost about \$9 million.

"It's a very exciting project for me," said Beverly Hills City Architect Mandana Motahari, who is leading the project. "It's a historic building. Architecturally it's a gorgeous building, and bringing life to those abandoned floors is very rewarding."

The larger civic center surrounding the original City Hall building was completed in 1990, and with that project the tower closed. Since then, regulations have changed around seismic safety.

"We know these days a lot more about the seismic performance of buildings," Motahari told the Courier. "We did some computer modeling and it was recommended to strengthen the tower."

While the tower remains in "fair" condition, according to Motahari, the retrofit is necessary to allow it to be occupied safely, but there are some challenges.

The tower's footprint extends down through the main City Hall building to the ground floor, so strengthening it requires minimal invasiveness. The project designers have to work within the historical building code, which restricts changes to historical landmarks like the city hall building.

"With preservation, you want to make sure you don't modify the building aesthetic

in any way and this project doesn't," said Motahari. "When we do the strengthening we don't touch any of that historic fabric. A lot of thought went into strategizing how to do this work so once we are done it's as if it was there all the time."

City Council discussions regarding the funding and initiation of the project started 2018 but were postponed due to budget constraints caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Now the plan is back on with a reduced scope. Some of the previously planned improvements to the interior remain postponed, and for now the project is focused on retrofit.

Eventually, the city plans to restore interior aesthetics like the historic flooring, and a new elevator will be installed. Improvements to make each floor fit for offices are expected in later phases.

There have been talks of eventually allowing public access to the tower's lowest floor and possibly the main building's roof deck below the tower. But this could prove unfeasible and the city has not yet made plans for how office space inside the tower will be used.

The City Architect's office is taking it one step at a time. The first step is making the tower safe, said Motahari.

So far, work has been done to clear out hazardous materials like lead paint that were commonly used at the time the building was constructed. Clark Construction Group has been awarded a contract with the city to do the retrofitting. Clark has worked on several historic buildings in Los Angeles County, including the Hall of Justice, Los Angeles City Hall and the Rose Bowl.

(City Hall Tower continues on page 15)

# BHUSD Board Rejects \$2.8 Million Purchase Order for Security Program Management Fees To Be Paid for with Bond Funds

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

At its July 27 meeting, the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) Board of Education reviewed Purchase Order Report No. 2 for 2021-2022. The order for supplies, services, and equipment totaled some \$3,630,478.95. That sum included \$664,181.05 from the General Fund, \$95,201.90 from the Measure E Fund and \$2,871,096.00 from the Measure BH Fund.

Board members took issue with the \$2,850,000 designated from Measure BH for payment to Team Concept Development Services, Inc. for Bond Program Management for Security.

Team Concepts is Don Blake's company hired by BHUSD to oversee management of bond funds.

During the meeting, Board member Mary Wells questioned the \$2.8 million expenditure to manage bond funds for a security program whose parameters are

not fully known yet.

"We have a purchase order for bond management for security in the amount of \$2,800,000," Wells said. "My issue with it is that I am not comfortable approving this when I do not have an overview of the security program...until we have this information, I'm just not comfortable approving dollars in this amount."

Wells added that she had been requesting an overview of the security program since she came on the Board. To date it has not happened. Wells also pointed out that the bond budget itself earmarked \$2 million for total security expenditures.

"I don't see how that adds up if we're spending \$2.8 million just for the bond management part of the program for security," she said.

(BHUSD continues on page 10)



AUGUST 1<sup>st</sup> - AUGUST 28<sup>th</sup>

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## Piano Profiles: Yalda Sepahpour

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW



Yalda Sepahpour

At 25, Iranian-born artist Yalda Sepahpour already has works in elite private and corporate collections across the world. Starting on Aug. 5, as part of the Sing for Hope Piano program, she will have a piece on the streets of Beverly Hills adorning one of 16 upright pianos spread across the city.

Working primarily in oil, Sepahpour's work exalts the feminine form and interrogates the female condition in rich, warm tones of ochre, peacock blue, and saffron sometimes juxtaposed with darker, heavier reds and blacks. Her line work is at times delicate and precise, and at others frenetic and bold, and appears on expansive canvasses standing 9 feet tall.

She draws from her childhood in Iran, depicting nude and partially clothed women amid the natural and historical elements of her birth country. The women of her work often appear beside endemic animals such as Arabian horses, camels, and local endangered species like the Arabian Oryx and the Asiatic Cheetah.

Her particular piano will be at home in Beverly Hills, which has a large Iranian immigrant community.

"Being so far away from home, it's such a warm feeling to come here and see that the Iranian community is also here," she said.

While she has loved the opportunity to share Iran's history and culture with audiences in the United States, Europe, and China, she feels excited to share her art with a community with a similar background.

"It's just nice to touch base with my home and my culture," she said.

"You see stuff on the news and it's just not everything. Until you go and see it, until you live there [and] you see the beauty of the country, as well."

The Sing for Hope Piano program places artist-designed upright pianos throughout public spaces to encourage community engagement. The project will begin on Aug. 5 and run until Sept. 6, at which point

the organization will donate the pianos to underserved public schools throughout the greater Los Angeles area. Beverly Hills will be home to 16 pianos located in areas including Beverly Hills City Hall, Beverly Gardens Park, the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, Will Rogers Memorial Park, La Cienega Park, and Roxbury Park.

Sepahpour has lived an international life, growing up in Iran, going to school in Switzerland, and then moving to the United States in 2014. She speaks English, French, and Farsi. In 2015, she enrolled in Laguna College of Art and Design, and before finishing her studies, she was discovered by the French Canadian gallery Simard Bilodeau Contemporary and began painting professionally.

A stroke of kismet put her on the gallery's radar. Her studio at the time in Laguna Beach sat right across the street from the gallery. The owners, Eve-Marie Bilodeau and Guy Simard, visited Sepahpour one day as she modeled for another one of their artists. After seeing a 9 ft. mural-in-progress, Bilodeau asked if she could have it finished in time for the LA Art Show. One week and many late nights later, the piece appeared in the show under the gallery's auspices and sold to the well-known street artist RETNA within 30 minutes.

A waiting list soon formed for Sepahpour's work, which sold nearly as fast as she could paint it. Her pieces adorn the walls of Cult Gaia founder Jasmin Larian, "The Avengers" director Joe Russo, and an unnamed Eastern European president. (Sepahpour could not disclose their name). Her work lives across the world in the United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Iran, and Canada.

About her success, she said, "You work hard, you put in the time, and just put it out there. And if it sells, it sells." ●

## Just in Case BH Community Walk Set for July 31

Just in Case BH is holding a Zone 7 Community Walk on July 31 at 9:30 a.m. Just in Case BH brings residents, businesses, and all city services together by seamlessly assisting each other before, during, and after emergencies through disaster preparedness, organizational leadership, and communication. This program is a collaboration between community members (residential and business), and city personnel, such as the Fire and Police Departments.

Zone 7 encompasses north of Wilshire, south of Santa Monica Boulevard and West of Doheny Drive. Anyone who lives or works

in Zone 7 is invited to the Community Walk. Please meet at the median near 9233 Burton Way. The purpose of the walk is to spread the word about this new program. Participants are urged to wear sunscreen and comfortable walking shoes!

Additionally, an Introductory Meeting via Zoom will take place on Aug. 3 at 3 p.m. Beverly Hills Fire and Police Departments and community leaders will provide more information about the program and take questions. For the most up-to-date information, visit [JUSTINCASEBH.org](http://JUSTINCASEBH.org). Future events are planned for the other zones. ●

## BHEF Continues to Help Schools

BY MICHAEL WITTNER



The BHEF's November Thanks 4 Giving campaign is a major annual fundraiser.

Ricky Lee arrived in Beverly Hills in 2016 from Seoul, South Korea, when he was in eighth grade. Initially, he felt overwhelmed by language and cultural barriers. In his sophomore year at Beverly Hills High School, Lee joined KBEV, the student-run television station. By his junior year, he was a junior producer, overseeing the production of Norman News and the broadcasting of school and community events. By his senior year, Lee was leading a team of producers and helping them navigate how to produce community television during the pandemic.

"I wasn't really understanding what was going on in high school, and the events and programs that high school had to offer, so KBEV helped spark an interest in school events," Lee told the Courier.

Lee's high school career and future may have been different without the Beverly Hills Education Foundation (BHEF), a nonprofit that provides between \$500,000 and \$700,000 a year in extra funding to all schools within the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD). Not only does BHEF help support KBEV, but it also recently awarded Lee and two other BHHS Class of 2021 graduates with the David Heiferman

Memorial Award, a \$3,000 scholarship awarded annually to student leaders. In addition to Lee, the other recipients were Mia De Castro Basto, and Alana Morgan Perkins. Basto will attend Barnard College in New York City where she plans to study environmental science. Perkins, the 2020 Miss Teen California USA, will attend the University of Florida where she hopes to study broadcast journalism.

In the past four decades, BHEF has helped thousands of BHUSD students like Lee, Basto and Perkins. In addition to scholarships, BHEF provides supplemental funding for arts, athletic coaches, audio and media production, college and career readiness, and much more every year.

"As a public school district, BHUSD receives basic aid funding from the state, but it's important to give support to classrooms, help teachers and the District provide exceptional educational experiences for our kids," BHEF President Farrah Dodes told the Courier.

"BHEF raises money and awareness for BHUSD," Superintendent Michael Bregy told the Courier. "They help connect our community to support a robust educational experience and have done so for all of our students for over 40 years."

The Foundation was established in 1978, right after the passage of Proposition 13 threatened to limit property tax revenue, the schools' hitherto primary source of funding. Throughout the 1970s, three court decisions resulted in a system that reconfigured school funding formulas in an attempt to reduce inequality between districts. Beverly Hills residents grew concerned that their schools would deteriorate in quality due to reduced funding, and philanthropist and media mogul Walter Annenberg made a \$20,000 gift to the "Hawthorne Fund," to benefit Hawthorne School, where his granddaughter attended.

(BHEF continues on page 13)



Los Angeles Airport Courthouse, where Shiva Bagheri received 20 hours of community service for holding unpermitted gatherings.

**(Freedom Rally Founder continued from page 1)**

As a part of the agreement, reached on July 27, Bagheri must serve 20 hours of court-approved community service and abstain from organizing any unpermitted gatherings for six months. If she violates either term of the agreement, she still may face prosecution.

"We are pleased to see the defendant being held accountable for her actions," said Beverly Hills Chief Communications Officer Keith Sterling.

Bagheri faced three misdemeanor charges for holding assemblies without a valid permit on Nov. 28, 2020, Jan. 6 and Jan. 9, 2021. Each charge carried fines up to \$3,500 or six months in jail.

The Beverly Hills Freedom Rally began in July 2020 in response to COVID-19 public health guidelines requiring face coverings

and restricting certain businesses. At one of the first weekly rallies, with attendance in the dozens, Bagheri led a smaller group of protesters to then-Mayor Lester Friedman's house to demand an end to mask mandates and school closures (policies that are not within the mayor's authority to change).

As the election season heated up, the Saturday rallies at Beverly Gardens Park became a gathering place for pro-Trump supporters. Each successive week, the number of Trump 2020 flags (and the people holding them) multiplied. In August, #WalkAway, a group that encourages Democrats and unaffiliated liberals to defect to the conservative movement, marched from West Hollywood to Beverly Gardens park, bringing hundreds of followers in tow. The exposure from that event triggered a surge in attendance from that point forward, reaching a peak of more than 4,000 in October.

The growing crowds also brought controversy. Many residents complained about the lack of access to Beverly Gardens Park each Saturday and about the loss of parking. Others complained about the low levels of compliance with Beverly Hills' masking requirements, especially with the rally-goers marching through the Business Triangle and getting close to alfresco diners. The rallies also saw repeated instances of violence between counter-protesters and Trump supporters.

On Oct. 27, in anticipation of unrest following the Nov. 3 General Election, the City Council adopted Urgency Ordinance No. 20-O-2821, which updated and clarified

the City's rules on parades and assemblies. The ordinance set dedicated areas for unpermitted assemblies at Beverly Gardens Park, La Cienega Park, and the Civic Center and stipulated that gatherings greater than 500 people must obtain a permit.

When the election returned a negative result for Donald Trump, the rally's message transitioned from "Trump 2020" to "Stop the Steal." It did not, however, go away.

The City Council readdressed the question of unpermitted rallies on Nov. 24, updating its ordinance to ban all rallies without a valid permit in Beverly Gardens Park, citing "considerable hardship for area residents as expressed in numerous complaints, including repeated obstruction of local access to and through the park, sudden and sharp increases in illegal parking (including in residential neighborhoods), and safety concerns."

"I'm going to be there every Saturday until we get our freedoms back," Bagheri told the Courier at the time.

Toward the waning months of the Freedom Rally, Bagheri received multiple citations for failures to comply with the city's masking ordinance. She says that she did not pay the hundreds of dollars in fines and returned a ticket to the city with a note from her doctor that she says exempts her from wearing face coverings. She says the city has left her alone since then. A spokesperson for the Beverly Hills Police Department said that he did not know the status of the citations and a spokesperson for the city could not confirm Bagheri's story.

Bagheri, who works as a dance instructor, did not have a background in activism prior to organizing the Freedom Rally. In fact, she voted for Barack Obama in 2008 before casting her ballot for Trump in 2016. She is now a familiar figure at protests at grocery stores, restaurants, and other businesses, joining others in defying masking requirements and picketing against vaccines.

The experience with the Freedom Rally has also inspired political aspirations in Bagheri. In March, she announced on Facebook that she plans to run for Beverly Hills City Council in 2022. She has not yet filed the required paperwork.

Bagheri's brush with the law seems to have mostly chastened her organizing efforts in Beverly Hills. Shortly after she was served with a notice to appear in court for the misdemeanor charges, she took a step back from the Freedom Rally, making occasional appearances but leaving the planning to other regulars. The mother of a student at Hawthorne School, Bagheri organized a small protest of the school's mask policy in April.

While she now intends on applying for a permit to hold another Freedom Rally, she has continued to protest COVID-19 public health restrictions outside of Beverly Hills. On July 22, Bagheri and other anti-vaccine activists protested mask-wearing policies at Cedars-Sinai Hospital's breast cancer treatment center.

Bagheri is scheduled to appear in court again on Oct. 27 for a progress report. ●

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## Challenges as Life Resumes

BY EVA RITVO, M.D.



Beverly Hills Courier columnist Dr. Eva Ritvo is a psychiatrist with more than 25 years' experience practicing in Miami Beach. She is the author of "Bekindr-The Transformative Power of Kindness" and the founder of the Bekindr Global Initiative, a movement to bring more kindness in the world. She is the co-author of "The Beauty Prescription" and "The Concise Guide to Marriage and Family Therapy." She is also the co-founder of the Bold Beauty Project, a nonprofit that pairs women with disabilities with award-winning photographers creating art exhibitions to raise awareness. Dr. Ritvo received her undergraduate and medical degrees from UCLA and psychiatry residency training at Weill Cornell Medicine.

In February 2020, it was unimaginable to most of us that we would spend a year in such a confined way. And here we are, almost a year and half later and only now cautiously reemerging. Imagine this from a fitness angle: What would happen to a runner who stops running for 18 months? The first steps on the track will be shaky, and it may take weeks or months before regaining full capabilities. Likewise, many of us stopped exercising our "social muscles" 18 months ago, and now that we are crawling back into society we are finding that our "social muscles" and other skills may have atrophied a bit.

Here's a list of issues to consider to help you successfully reemerge:

**Embrace forgiveness and patience**  
As we venture back into restaurants, businesses, and society in general, we are certain to find things don't always work as smoothly as they did before the pandemic started. For example, when you go back to the restaurant you used to love so much, you might discover that they are very short-staffed. Maybe they are down to a single overwhelmed cook who can't keep up with pre-pandemic quality standards. No matter where you encounter difficulties with business, try to keep this in mind: we are all trying to figure things out! Be more forgiving and patient than you were before and seek to be the kindest person you can be.

**Overdrinking in social settings**  
Many people have decreased their alcohol intake during quarantine. Now as we return to bars and social settings, we may drink more as we get caught up in the moment or feel pressured to keep up with others. Or maybe you knew exactly how much you could drink before the quarantine, but now the same amount may hit you like a brick. Problems occur when our livers aren't fully up to speed for an onslaught of alcohol. If we haven't been drinking, our livers haven't made the necessary enzymes to detoxify alcohol. I have heard numerous times already about well-intentioned people having side effects like vomiting, headaches, confusion, and mood swings from their nights back out. If you must drink, do so cautiously.

**Sensory overload**  
Being in crowds can be unnerving after so long at home. Noises that were normal

before may now seem louder and more irritating. Smells may be more bothersome, particularly cigarette smoke if you have been away from it for over a year. After viewing others as potential threats to our health, it is quite an adjustment to enjoy crowded places again. Go slowly as we are still not in the clear. Crowds may be best avoided until risks are lower.

**Socializing in groups**  
It can be very draining when you are out of practice. Pace yourself as you go back out and be prepared to rest after events. Most everyone is a bit more stressed out, and remember emotions are highly contagious. Limit interactions to those that feel nourishing and try to avoid the ones that drain you.

**Night driving**  
Night driving is far more difficult than day driving, as there are fewer visual cues. If you haven't been driving much after dark, there may be a period of readjustment. Start slowly and avoid the highway until you regain your confidence.

**Travel**  
If you haven't done it in a while it can be very anxiety provoking. International travel is particularly challenging as there are many new rules you will have to adapt to. Wearing a mask can be uncomfortable and add to the anxiety associated with getting back out there.

**Spending excess money**  
It was easy to decrease our spending during quarantine and now we are definitely seeing the pendulum swing the other way. Make sure you are monitoring your spending and not simply getting caught up in the enthusiasm of the moment.

**Loneliness**  
For some, the quarantine increased time with family or loved ones as kids and other family members were home day and night. Be patient with yourself as you readjust to alone time and remember that it is important to find ways to enjoy and recharge by yourself.

**Relationship challenges**  
Many relationships started during the pandemic and now need to adapt. As life resumes, couples may find that their interests and energy levels don't line up as well as they did during quarantine. Make sure to identify and communicate your needs and wants. Going through trauma can also

strengthen bonds, so remember to be grateful to those who helped you get through.

**Restarting relationships**  
Interacting with family or friends that you haven't seen in over a year can be tricky. Many relationships were strained or cut off during quarantine. We need our friends and family for support, and it is important now to reconnect. Reach out even if you haven't in a while and meet in person again when possible.

**Going back to the office**  
Commuting to work feels like a chore for many. We have become extremely used to working from home, and many have come to prefer it. However, never forget that we humans are social animals. We do lose out when we don't interact face-to-face, so weigh your options carefully if you have them.

**Healthy eating**  
Eating well back in gatherings or restaurants can be very difficult. The excitement of being back out, the alcohol, and desire

to socialize make it easy to make poor food choices. Our health should remain a top priority, so try to resist the temptations and stick to a high quality, balanced food plan.

**Lonely pets**  
Time with pets will decline as we resume a more normal life. Shelters are already preparing for returns, but fortunately most owners are keeping their pandemic pet. If you are returning to work, look for suitable options for your pet or begin training them to remain for longer and longer periods without you. Walking your dog before you leave and when you get home is a great way to get exercise for both of you.

We must continue to remain vigilant as the pandemic is clearly not over, but we are fortunate to be resuming many activities. Be patient with yourself and others, as once again we are changing our patterns and like the wobbly runner, we may not be at our best for a while. ●



# LA Philanthropists Open Tel Aviv Day Care Center

BY BIANCA HEYWARD



Esther Mor, President, Dr. Sharon Nazarian, President of the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Family Foundation Soraya Nazarian, co-Founder of the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Family Foundation Anita Friedman, Chairperson, World WIZO. (photo credit: KFIR SIVAN)

Last week, a new state-of-the-art day care center in Tel Aviv was inaugurated, giving hundreds of Israeli families cause for celebration. WIZO (Women's International Zionist Organization) opened the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Day Care and Early Childhood Education Center after receiving funding from the Los Angeles-based Younes and Soraya Nazarian Family Foundation.

Currently, WIZO operates 183 daycare centers throughout Israel, caring for 14,000 children between three months and three years of age. The new Nazarian Center will have four classes caring for more than 100 children.

The partnership between the Nazarian Foundation and WIZO dates to Israel's earliest days in the 1950's, when the Nazarian family matriarch, Goldbahar Aviva Chachami Nazarian—known to everyone as Ima (“mother” in Hebrew) – volunteered at WIZO facilities after making aliya Israel from Iran.

Soraya Nazarian, her daughter Dr. Sharon Nazarian, WIZO President Esther Mor, chairperson Anita Friedman, and dozens of other Nazarian family members and members of the WIZO community attended the day care's dedication ceremony last week.

“Research has shown that the investment in children between birth and five years old is critical, and that if you start that young, the rest of their lives will be a path to success,” Dr. Nazarian said at the ceremony. “This facility, and the staff and teachers who are so loving, are the insurance policy of the future of the state of Israel.”

“The Nazarian Family Foundation and WIZO share the belief that education is the

(Courier's Legal Advertising Bid continued from page 4)

The Council voted unanimously to accept the Courier's bid, while contracting with the two other adjudicated newspapers at their requested rates. In years past, two papers competed, and the city assigned rates of 65% of the winning bid to the runner-up.

The Council selected the Courier over the two competitors due to the Courier's superior circulation both in and around Beverly Hills, as well as estimated rates of readership and return (the number of customers who actually read the paper or return it).

Staff recommended the Courier “because it is the most cost-effective pricing per reader with the highest circulation within Beverly Hills between the three newspapers.”

“We at the Courier are very grateful and honored that the staff has recommended us for the bid once again,” Bloch said. “We very much appreciate our partnership with the City of Beverly Hills.”

“We're fortunate to have three papers that do cover us,” said Mayor Robert Wunderlich. “We want a sense of equity in terms of how we distribute our advertising.” ●

most important catalyst for social change,” Mor, said. “By investing in young children, we are investing in Israel's future as the toddlers in this wonderful center will one day be our nation's leaders, innovators and defenders.”

Younes and Soraya Nazarian are prominent members of the Iranian Jewish community in Los Angeles, known for their years of philanthropic work, both in America and Israel, in fields such as the arts, health and institutions of higher education.

Soraya became a founding member of WIZO Los Angeles after she and her husband Younes moved to the United States from Iran and remains an active member till this day. At its entrance, the day care center will feature a bronze sculpture created by Soraya of the family matriarch with an inscription telling her story. The sculpture was inspired

to give the children a second “Ima.”

“The Nazarian family's commitment to the advancement of Israeli society is expressed in three main ways - education, art, and medicine,” said Esther Barak Landes, CEO of the Ima Foundation, the Israeli arm of the Nazarian Foundation. Landes added that the fourth goal, which will soon become the foundation's main focus, is empowering women in society. ●



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**SUMMER @ THE WALLIS 2021**

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**TheWallis** [TheWallis.org/Summer](http://TheWallis.org/Summer)



(BHUSD continued from page 5)

Wells' skepticism is justified, according to documents reviewed by the Courier. An April 21 District report for Measure BH project expenditures shows an overall budget for District-wide security of \$2.2 million, based on a 2018 budget (the most recent one available). The same report shows payments to Team Concept Development Services, Inc. in the amount of \$1.76 million during the period from July 1, 2020 to March 27, 2021 for construction management.

The question of why an additional \$2.8 million payment is in order is one Wells hopes will be addressed at a Study Session on this matter on Sept. 2. (Two prior Study Sessions on the same topic have been canceled.)

Board President Rachelle Marcus shared a viewpoint similar to the one expressed by Wells. At the Board meeting, Marcus noted, "I'm really kind of puzzled that all of this is coming up right now and we haven't studied the plan itself. So, I personally would like to withhold the \$2,850,000 on the purchase

order."

Marcus moved to amend the approval of the ratification of the Purchase Order, minus the purchase order for Team Concept Development Services Inc. for bond program management on security.

As acknowledged on the record by BHUSD officials during the Board meeting, the rejected item will not have an immediate impact on security for the start of the school year. In fact, the Board approved Amendment No. 2 in their contract with Nastec International, Inc. for armed security agent services, adding an additional officer at Beverly Hills High School, with a total of three now. At Hawthorne School, Horace Mann and Beverly Vista Middle School, two Nastec guards will be always assigned. Additionally, the Board has approved contracts with CSEA for unarmed security guards, who are assigned to each campus.

The Courier will update this story as events unfold.

#### Additional Matters Considered by the Board

In addition to the Purchase Orders, the Board also considered other orders of business regarding the upcoming school year. Superintendent Dr. Michael Bregy encouraged BHUSD staff and students aged 12-years-old and above to obtain vaccinations against COVID-19. In order to limit the potential spread of the virus, BHUSD is strongly discouraging non-essential visitors on campus. With classroom capacity limits lifted, three-foot distancing will be

maintained when possible. And face masks will be required in all indoor environments. (Currently, face coverings are optional in outdoor settings.)

"This is the beginning of a new school year," Bregy said. "We're very fortunate if you think about it. We're one of the very few kinds of industries if you will that has an opportunity for a fresh start every single year."

The District will conduct daily temperature checks, provide COVID-19 testing on site and impose a 10-day quarantine should someone test positive. If a student tests positive or comes in close contact with someone who did, the school will provide the student with instruction to keep up with what's happening in the classroom while in isolation.

"At this time, public schools cannot mandate vaccines for our students," Bregy said. "This would be something that the state would have to decide, and then we would have to implement it if the state makes that decision. But, as a public school district, we cannot require the COVID-19 vaccine for students."

The Board also approved an amendment to the independent study board policy BP 6158, and administrative regulation 6158 for the 2021-2022 school year to meet the requirements of AB 130, which Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law on July 9 this year. For the 2021-22 school year only, AB130 requires school districts and county offices of education to offer independent study as an education option. This requirement does

not apply to charter schools. Still, BHUSD will return with a full face-to-face instructional model.

"Schooling done in person, when possible, feasible and safe, is perhaps our best notion developmentally for children," said Board Member Amanda Stern. "I don't want to depart too much from that, however, I'm glad that there is a provision such as AB130 as needed."

The Board also approved its second three-year employment agreement with Bregy in the position of superintendent, beginning on July 1, 2022, and expiring on June 30, 2025. "He is dedicated and hardworking, he instituted the three-year strategic plan, and he has one of the most talented cabinet which surrounds him in being able to accomplish everything he does," Marcus said. "I am thrilled that we have such a consistent and strong administration."

At the end of the meeting, Wells made a reference to Terry Tao's legal engagement letter that was removed from the agenda for approval. The Board is in the process of reviewing the legal contract. "I have been reviewing our legal fees. I really feel that this is somewhat of a blind spot for us and I think we can do better," said Wells. She went on to say that the District needs to improve the process for making legal expenditures to be more judicious with its spending. ●



## wellness wednesdays

Join Mayor Bob Wunderlich for 'Wellness Wednesdays,' a Mayoral Initiative that aims to inspire the community to get outside and participate in exercise classes, enjoy wholesome food options from local businesses and incorporate wellness into their lives.

**8-4-21 at 8am**  
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### Total Body Conditioning

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### Pickleball Clinic

\*Equipment provided



[beverlyhills.org/wellnesswednesdays](https://beverlyhills.org/wellnesswednesdays) | Questions can be directed to 310-285-1014

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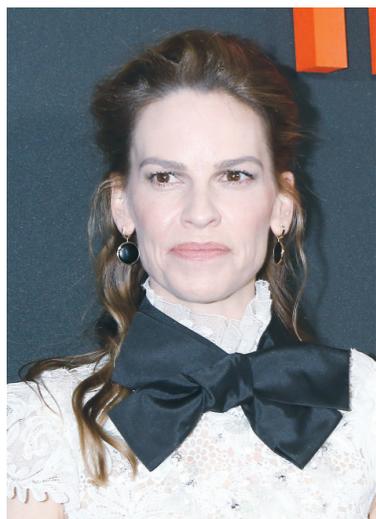


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# Birthdays



**HILARY SWANK**  
July 30



**ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**  
July 30



**ALEXIS BLOCH**  
July 31



**JORDAN BLOCH**  
July 31



**BARBARA LAZAROFF**  
August 1



**MARTHA STEWART**  
August 3



**MEGHAN MARKLE**  
August 4



**JOSEPH NANKIN**  
August 5



## Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). As the warrior of the zodiac, you observe the rules of battle, aware of the advance and the retreat. What matters is honor in both scenarios -- to be brave and never to desert the others.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Falling in love with a person is different from falling in love with the way you feel when you're around that person. The distinction will be worth noting. Healthy relationships are thoroughly considered.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You'll disagree, but you won't disrespect. For this reason, you're just the person who can help everyone work together for a common aim. Good leaders unify the group.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). When the apple cart of expectation overturns, it's a surprise, but it doesn't have to be an upset or an obstacle. This is a chance to question and update your premise to match reality.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Even though you love to learn, you'd rather figure things out yourself than listen to someone serve up what they think you ought

to know. Others share your preference. Instead of preaching, you'll offer an opportunity for discovery.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's like you're on a hike, striving to get up to the elevation that will allow you a better view of the situation. The miles you travel today will help you get the past into proper perspective and glimpse the future, too.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). If you wouldn't say something in front of the smartest person you know, don't say it. Also, consider whether you're hanging out in the right places. Your company should elevate you, not cause you to dip your standards.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Which has a higher value, appropriateness or humor? Honesty or creativity? Which is more useful to cultivate, abundance or safety? There are no absolute right answers. You'll notice your value system is changing.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've told your story many times and in different ways, smartly catering to the themes on the table. What you add to today's themes will really help the others, especially if you keep your contribution brief.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People from other backgrounds may have vastly different notions of what's

appropriate. Most will be able to adjust to the expectations of the moment, as long as those are clearly communicated in a way they can understand.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The successful timing of the day can be summed up in one word: early. It will pay to get a jump on everything from traffic to investments to the day itself, arriving on the scene before the others.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). There's no question you've been gifted with talent. But what is more valuable is your other gift -- the difficulty you were handed. Overcoming this has made

you capable and ready to turn today's opportunity into gold.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (July 30). A gorgeous harmonizing of disparate elements takes place as you answer the solar return invitation to less thinking, more feeling. You'll fall into a more natural rhythm in regard to work and health. You'll be an essential part of a small group and accomplish big things there. Upgrades will add ease and style to your daily life. Cancer and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 19, 1, 4, 44 and 15.



Kuya is a 7-year-old female who weighs 12 pounds. If you can give this sweet, lovable kitty a new home, please call Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538. [www.shelterhopepetshop.org](http://www.shelterhopepetshop.org)



Beverly Hills residents test out a protected bike lane along Roxbury Drive



Mayor Robert Wunderlich led cyclists on a two-mile ride around the neighborhood.

#### (Roxbury Drive Bike Lane continued from page 1)

“We heard overwhelmingly that the community wants to see bike lanes that are more separated from vehicular travel lanes, since that makes people feel so much more comfortable when they’re riding in the streets, so this is one of the ways we can implement the Complete Streets Plan and try to bring more of these bikeways to Beverly Hills,” Transportation Planner Jessie Holzer told the Courier, right behind a tent full of questionnaires and leaflets about safe biking, held down to the table by rocks painted “Bike BH.”

Currently, Beverly Hills has bike lanes along sections of Burton Way, Crescent Drive, and its entire stretch of Santa Monica Boulevard. According to a report in the Complete Streets Plan, the city has 3.6 miles of striped street lanes designated as “Class II,” (Burton Way from Rexford Drive to eastern city limits; Crescent Drive from Sunset Boulevard to Park Way; North Santa Monica Boulevard (from western city limits to Doheny Drive); and a half-mile of Class III lanes (Crescent Drive from Park Way to Wilshire Boulevard and South Santa Monica Boulevard from Crescent Drive to Rexford Drive), which have markings known as “sharrows” that let cars know it’s a shared bike lane.

For many city cyclists, these markings are not enough. “Every time I go on a bike ride, I’m always afraid I’m going to get hit by a car,” Beverly Hills native Abigail Rothstein told the Courier. “I don’t think that there’s a mutual respect between drivers and bike riders.”

In 2016, as many as four bike collisions were reported on major roads of the city. In 2012, nine collisions were reported along Wilshire Boulevard, according to a report by transportation consultant Fehr & Peers.

“I don’t always feel safe, and that’s part of the problem: that’s one of the reasons we need these protected bike lanes wherever we can,” Councilmember John Mirisch told the Courier after coming off a two-mile bike loop led by Mayor Robert Wunderlich. “Motor vehicular traffic is sometimes very fast.”

Vice Mayor Lili Bosse, who also attended the demonstration, told the Courier that while she feels safe riding in the city, she tries to stick to existing bike lanes and remain “very aware of my surroundings.”

Wunderlich agreed with Mirisch, telling the Courier he does not feel Beverly Hills is a “sufficiently bike-friendly city.”

“The possibility of bicycling on city streets shouldn’t just be for the hardcore bicyclists,” he said. “To allow people to use their bikes, they really have to feel safe doing it, and so a protected bike lane is the way

#### (BHEF continued from page 6)

The Hawthorne Fund eventually turned into BHEF, now with a 15-member board. It was one of the first educational foundations in the nation.

Today, BHEF uses a variety of methods to raise and distribute as much as \$700,000 a year to BHUSD schools. First and foremost, there is the Endowment Fund, which has grown to about \$4 million. Each year, BHEF donates the endowment’s annual return and solicits new pledges and donations to grow the fund. It also offers donors the opportunity to name school facilities. During annual campaigns, board members solicit funds from local businesses and individuals, who can give as much as \$100,000 to reach “Valedictorian Level.”

Donors can also give to specialized programs such as performing arts, the robotics team, and Career Creators (Career Technical Education).

During the 2020-2021 year, when all fundraising had to be done virtually, the BHEF received between \$25,000 and \$99,999 from the City of Beverly Hills and the Harold McAlister Charitable Foundation. The next largest donation, between \$5,000 and \$9,999, came from Vice Mayor Lili Bosse and her husband Jon.

In addition to numerous athletic, performing arts, co-curricular, science fair, college, and career readiness programs, with

the support of BHEF, BHUSD is able to pilot new, innovative programs without an initial financial commitment. Pending the success of these programs, BHUSD then adopts the program financially, allowing BHEF to then pilot a new program. An example of this is the newly hired Instructional Coach. The Instructional Coach will partner with teachers and staff to set goals, identify and model teaching strategies, and provide support and student growth opportunities. They will support all new teachers in the district and continue to support the partnership that BHUSD has with Stanford University for National Board Certification for teachers.

At the beginning of each calendar year, BHEF and BHUSD meet to discuss current programs and new, creative ideas that each school site is eager to implement but unable to due to the financial impact. That is where BHEF steps in.

“As the students integrate back in the fall into the schools, it might be more important now than ever to really work with students to make sure they’re creating avenues of communication to resolve problems, to feel like their voices are heard, to create a space where kids are feeling recognized and encouraged for being good citizens,” former BHEF President Cindy Trost told the Courier.

To establish your own scholarship or donate to BHEF, visit [bhef.org](http://bhef.org). ●

to make that happen.”

City staff chose the stretch of Roxbury Drive because the street was wide enough to build a 6-foot-wide lane without removing any existing lanes or parking spots. Eventually, the lane will be protected by the row of parked cars moved six feet out. After a one-year pilot program, the department is also aiming to make the lane sidewalk-level to make it completely separate from the street, Holzer told the Courier.

On Aug. 5, after feedback from Sunday’s event is synthesized, the Traffic and Parking Commission will review the plan and decide whether or not to recommend it to the City Council. If it passes muster, the plan will go to the City Council at some point in the fall.

Some preliminary Traffic and Parking Commission reviews are in. “I think they’ve done it in a smart way for a temporary lane,” Commissioner Sharon Ignarro told the Courier. “I think that if it becomes a permanent lane, it would be nice if it were a little bit wider, and they had perhaps a stripe in the middle so people could go each direction - right now it’s a little bit uncertain who should go which way.” While the lane will be one-way, Holzer told the Courier that bikes may be able to pass one another, depending on their size.

If the City Council approves the plan, the one-year pilot program will test out the efficacy of both the southbound protected lane, and a Class II unprotected northbound lane on the other side of the Roxbury Drive. During the pilot year, the lane will be separated by more permanent barriers like planters. The Transportation Department will also complete several traffic studies and solicit more community feedback.

If all goes according to plan, the sky’s the limit. The Holistic Bikeway Network proposes

protected lanes along Sunset Boulevard from Whittier Drive to the eastern limit at Phyllis Street; Beverly Boulevard from Santa Monica Boulevard east to Doheny Drive; Burton Way from Rexford Drive east to Robertson Drive; Charleville Boulevard from Lasky Drive east to the future Wilshire-La Cienega Metro station; Gregory Way from Spalding Drive east to San Vicente Boulevard; and Beverly Drive from Santa Monica Boulevard south to Whitworth Drive.

Protected lanes along Roxbury Drive, Burton Way and Beverly Boulevard all link to existing bike lanes in Los Angeles.

Class II lanes are proposed along Whittier Drive from Sunset Boulevard south to Wilshire Boulevard; Roxbury Drive from Sunset Boulevard south to Olympic Boulevard; Beverly Drive south from Sunset Boulevard to Park Way; San Vicente Boulevard south from Clifton Way to Wilshire Boulevard; and the stretch of Moreno Drive in front of Beverly Hills High School.

Class III lanes are proposed on Elevado Avenue from Whittier Drive east to Doheny Drive; Rexford Drive from Sunset Boulevard south to Whitworth Drive; Palm Drive from Sunset Boulevard south to Civic Center Drive; Crescent Drive from Wilshire Boulevard south to Whitworth Drive; Clifton Way from Rexford Drive east to San Vicente Boulevard; and Brighton Way from Roxbury Drive east to Crescent Drive, among several others.

“The ultimate goal is to build out the network so people can get from one side of the city to another and beyond by bicycle,” Holzer said. ●

**SUDOKU**  
07/30/21 ISSUE

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**SUDOKU ANSWERS**  
07/23/21 ISSUE

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1	5	3	2	7	6	9	4	8
4	2	7	8	5	9	3	1	6
5	8	1	6	9	4	2	3	7
2	9	6	7	3	8	4	5	1
3	7	4	1	2	5	6	8	9

**PUZZLE ANSWERS**  
07/23/21 ISSUE

A	S	C	A	P	V	O	C	E	S	C	O	W	L	E	V	E	R		
R	H	O	D	E	I	R	A	N	T	E	R	R	A	V	I	L	E		
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E	M	A	I	L	A	L	E	R	T	J	U	L	I	A	C	H	I	L	D
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**THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE**  
07/30/21 ISSUE

**STAR SEARCH**

BY CHANDI DEITMER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Chandi Deitmer, of Somerville, Mass., is a social worker in the fields of psychiatry and geriatrics. She got hooked on crosswords in college via the AVCX puzzle in *The Onion* (which was only in print in those days). She started constructing a year or two ago, mainly for "indie" venues. This is her Times debut. The puzzle has a multilayered theme, whose subject is indicated by the designs in the grid. — W.S.

- |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p><b>ACROSS</b></p> <p>1 Symbol of royalty in ancient Egypt</p> <p>4 Wouldn't stand for it?</p> <p>7 They have springs in the middle</p> <p>12 _____ Perez, former Democratic National Committee chairman</p> <p>15 Nutritional fig.</p> <p>18 Apple tablet option</p> <p>20 Popular analgesic</p> <p>21 Belgian city that hosted the 1920 Summer Olympics</p> <p>23 One of the rooms in Clue</p> <p>24 N.B.A. superstar Durant</p> <p>25 Volting "aye"</p> <p>26 Gilbert and _____ Islands (former colonial names of Kiribati and Tuvalu)</p> <p>27 Give way</p> <p>28 Levy of "Schitt's Creek"</p> <p>29 When the Lascaux caves were painted</p> <p>32 Furthermore</p> <p>33 Much of Goya's output</p> <p>35 Japanese beer brand</p> <p>36 San Francisco's _____ Valley</p> <p>37 In which "Stella" means "star"</p> <p>38 Seaweed used to wrap sushi</p> <p>41 Descriptor of almost a million and a half Californians</p> | <p>44 Porridge, essentially</p> <p>48 Real surname for the authors Currier, Ellis and Acton Bell</p> <p>51 With a yawn, say</p> <p>52 Less certain</p> <p>54 Onetime material for tennis-racket strings</p> <p>55 "That much is clear"</p> <p>56 Symbol of Mexico</p> <p>57 Country with roughly 6,000 islands</p> <p>59 Where a pop-up leads</p> <p>61 Alpha and Beta Ursae (pointers to 68-Across)</p> <p>64 Noodle soup</p> <p>68 Guiding light</p> <p>72 Gentile figure of a French folk song</p> <p>74 Lord's title</p> <p>75 Originally from</p> <p>76 Place to take a suit</p> <p>77 Executive producer of HBO's "A Black Lady Sketch Show"</p> <p>80 Risk</p> <p>81 "_____ Lang Syne"</p> <p>82 Pesky insect</p> <p>84 Something to notice in passing?</p> <p>87 It's between micro- and pico-</p> <p>88 Horace's "Hymn to Mercury," for one</p> <p>89 New York political family</p> <p>91 Fifth-century conqueror defeated in the Battle of the Catalaunian Plains</p> <p>93 Rap's Lil _____ X</p> <p>94 Reliable supporters</p> <p>95 Glazer of "Broad City"</p> <p>97 Online source for film facts, in brief</p> | <p>99 Repugnance</p> <p>102 Disguised</p> <p>105 Author _____ Carol Oates</p> <p>109 Wine that may be made spumante or frizzante</p> <p>111 Little</p> <p>112 Bested</p> <p>114 Gritty, in a sense</p> <p>115 Ones committing a party foul ... or the images depicted in this puzzle's grid?</p> <p>118 Camping-gear brand</p> <p>119 Letters before an alias</p> <p>120 Surprising wins</p> <p>121 Jeu d' _____ (witticism)</p> <p>122 Little one</p> <p>123 Female mallard</p> <p>124 Grommet</p> <p>125 Black-eyed _____ (flowers)</p> <p>126 Kind of protein in tempeh</p> | <p>10 Unforgivable acts, say</p> <p>11 iPhone button with an up arrow on it</p> <p>12 Duty</p> <p>13 About to enter the stage, say</p> <p>14 Subject of Hokusai's "Thirty-Six Views"</p> <p>15 Delight (in)</p> <p>16 Go on and on</p> <p>17 Avant's opposite</p> <p>19 Celestial figure depicted in this puzzle's grid, in African American folklore</p> <p>22 Celestial figure depicted in this puzzle's grid, in Babylonian folklore</p> <p>30 Joe and co., e.g.</p> <p>31 Sharing maternal lines</p> <p>33 Excoriated</p> <p>34 Akira Kurosawa film</p> <p>38 Peacock streaming inits.</p> <p>39 Italian time unit</p> <p>40 Utter nonsense</p> <p>42 Like five-star hotels vis-à-vis three-star ones</p> <p>43 Gather</p> <p>45 Rose of rock</p> <p>46 Nickname on a ranch</p> <p>47 Spanish title: Abbr.</p> <p>49 Tower topper</p> <p>50 Digital writing</p> <p>52 Buffoon</p> <p>53 Brawler's memento</p> <p>58 Is at the Forum?</p> <p>60 Steamy place</p> <p>61 _____ Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China</p> |
|---|---|--|---|

**ANSWERS FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER...**

- |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p>62 For all to hear</p> <p>63 Unit in thermodynamics</p> <p>65 Chump</p> <p>66 Unaccounted for, briefly</p> <p>67 Fumble</p> <p>69 Went into syndication, e.g.</p> <p>70 Singer Aguilera's alter ego</p> <p>71 Star performances, maybe</p> | <p>73 This is a test</p> <p>75 "Gee, that's swell!"</p> <p>78 Like Vulcans, typically</p> <p>79 Central Asia's _____ Mountains</p> <p>82 "Gloomy" guy</p> <p>83 "That's just unacceptable"</p> <p>85 1969-74, politically</p> <p>86 Tree that lends its name to a programming language</p> | <p>89 Matured, in a way</p> <p>90 Like the three-toed sloth, among all animals</p> <p>91 New wings</p> <p>92 Tweaks</p> <p>94 Clear, as crystal</p> <p>96 Like Parmesan, but not mozzarella</p> <p>98 Bouncy jazz genre</p> <p>99 Noted book-club leader</p> <p>100 Male mallard</p> <p>101 Certain caucus voter</p> | <p>103 1938 prize for Pearl S. Buck</p> <p>104 Big name in trading cards</p> <p>106 W.W. I Belgian battle locale</p> <p>107 Green with the 2010 hit "Forget You"</p> <p>108 Enlighten</p> <p>110 Roger's cousin?</p> <p>113 Ireland, poetically</p> <p>116 Smartphone network std.</p> <p>117 Home to the Nittany Lions, for short</p> |
|---|--|--|--|

**(Wildfire Assessment continued from page 1)**

The report, which offers recommendations on everything from evacuation routes to vegetation removal to home hardening, was written by Wildfire Management Consultant David Shew and J. Lopez, former Assistant Chief for LA County Fire Department's Forestry Division. It is not yet finalized, and the timeline of its finalization is unknown. Since its July 9 release, Barton, Shew, Epstein, and wildfire expert Shea Broussard answered questions about the report in two public meetings on July 12 and 13. According to Barton, there are no plans to present the plan to any city commissions, but the team will go before the Council with plan updates at an unforeseen date.

"We will continue to work with private agencies to evaluate the most vulnerable locations using advanced fire modeling to identify areas where we can improve fire safety," a city website devoted to the report says of its finalization process. "We will make recommendations and take action to make incremental improvements and identify emerging trends as the vegetation landscape continues to change."

Still, some concrete action steps are forthcoming. Both Barton and Shew said that they will immediately begin working to reconfigure the Beverly Hills chapter of the Firewise USA program, a national volunteer-based fire safety and prevention program, into smaller neighborhood groups around the fire-prone neighborhoods north of Sunset Boulevard.

Barton also told Vice Mayor Lili Bosse that he plans to start virtual evacuation drills in two months, and in-person evacuation drills around the first of next year, COVID permitting. Bosse asked Barton if that could be moved up, which he said he would consider doing.

Barton also told the Courier that his team is currently taking steps to shore up evacuation routes, particularly in areas the report designates as very high wildfire intensity. These "choke points," as Barton calls them, are strongest around the northern part of Trousdale Estates, especially near the intersection of Carla Ridge and Loma Vista Drive. While every case is different, the report recommends a mixture of strict enforcement of restricted parking during Red Flag weather, improved signage, and vegetation clearance to keep the streets as clear as possible.

To the surprise of many, the report recommended the removal of just 100 trees north of Sunset Boulevard, a far cry from the 1200 recommended by 2019's Urban Forest Management Plan report from environmental consulting firm Dudek. Thanks to new modeling technology, the newest report identifies tall trees along Loma Vista Drive and Carla Ridge that it says pose very high risks for obstruction and flammability.

Removing any number of trees has exposed sharp divisions in the Trousdale community, even though the fire department says it plans to eventually replace them with more fire-resistant species. Of the nine public comments on July 27, five people were in favor of getting rid of the trees, and four were against it.

"I don't care what anybody else says: those trees are a danger, and every day when I drive down Loma Vista and I look at those trees, I see how big they are, I see

all the brown pine needles that fall: it's a danger to all of us, and I'm concerned for the community," Trousdale resident Alan Iezman said.

"Healthy, rooted, watered pine trees, no matter how old or tall they are, will not fall down, and I also feel that perhaps some trees are more flammable," said Tina Sinatra, another Trousdale resident. "I ask everybody to stay calm - let's not rape a neighborhood. We don't want to be bald and look like a tract development, which is how we started - that's what Trousdale was, and nobody wanted to live here, but the trees made it better."

Councilmembers generally seemed in favor of removing the trees. But the designated trees belong to the city, and many wondered what to do about the many trees on private land that could burn just as easily.

"Is doing landscape managing on public property sufficient, or if we really want to do what we're saying, is it equally important and maybe even more important to be able to increase what we do on private property as well?" Wunderlich asked, referring both to fire prevention and ensuring clear evacuation routes.

The answer is yes, staff said, and addressing that is no easy feat. One of the best methods is public education and neighborhood outreach campaigns, like the Firewise Neighborhood Councils, to work with homeowners to harden their homes and alter their vegetation if necessary. "It not only requires a change in people's paradigm in what they consider to be attractive landscaping and things like that, but it also requires a new understanding of our knowledge and explanation as these fires continue to get worse," Shew said.

The Beverly Hills Fire Code already requires homeowners in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones to comply with many fire safety standards, like keeping any dead, dry, and hazardous vegetation at least 200 feet from any structure, and requiring that no leaves hang below a certain point, depending on the height of the tree. Barton said that he is hoping for a future ordinance to grant the city the rights to trim leaves hanging out from private property.

Although virtual modeling showed that treeless streets might reduce overall fire intensity by 22.5%, insurance companies are still canceling policies of residents in the affected area. Many of the Trousdale callers said that they had been dropped by their insurance companies and can't find any others willing to take them on. When Vice Mayor Bosse asked what could be done, Barton said his team has located some companies that were willing to look at homes individually and the actions they're taking to prevent fires, rather than as part of a geographic bloc. Still, Barton said insurance companies are trying to "cut their losses and get out of California."

"We're trying to educate the insurance companies on what the city is doing to help the residents," he said. "By being a FireWise community that helps with some insurance companies like USAA and State Farm, but we're doing everything we can to get residents insured."

Another big topic was water, and whether Beverly Hills has enough to withstand future fires. Unlike the rest of the topics, the answer was fairly straightforward: yes. The city has three-four days of water storage, according

to Director of Public Works Shana Epstein. Epstein also told Mayor Wunderlich that the city has a continuous connection with Metropolitan Water District, and if that is disconnected, the city has an emergency connection with LADWP at the Woodland Reservoir. The BHFD also has agreements with the Los Angeles Fire Department and LA County Fire to activate additional water-dropping resources, according to Barton.

**Tobacco Hardship Appeal**

Where there's fire, there's smoke. Just before their marathon review of the Wildfire Assessment Report, the Council voted 3-2 to refer the appeal of a gas station owner's tobacco hardship exemption back to an Administrative Hearing Officer, rather than hear the case themselves.

Morris Poulder, the owner of a 76 gas station at the intersection of Olympic Boulevard and Beverwil Drive officially known as Beverly Hills Oil, Inc., applied for a 19-year exemption from the city's 2019 ordinance banning gas stations and convenience stores from selling tobacco products. In December 2020, a hearing officer whittled the initial request down to just two years. Two weeks later, Poulder appealed the decision. Wunderlich, Bosse, and Councilmember Lester Friedman voted to send the appeal back to the Hearing Officer, citing due process. Councilmembers John Mirisch and Julian Gold voted for the Council to hear the appeal. After the vote, the Council asked to be informed of the Hearing Officer's decision. ●



Inside the Beverly Hills City Hall tower, the ninth floor is stripped to bare walls and deserted. Photo by Carl Robinette

**(City Hall Tower continued from page 5)**

"No two historic building projects are the same," said Clark's Senior Vice President Marc Kersey in an email statement. "And each has its own unique characteristics, including the use of old construction materials, hidden details and nontraditional original construction techniques. This requires teams to come up with creative approaches through project delivery."

The City Hall building was constructed in 1932 and originally housed most of the city government, including the City Council, police department and the public library. The latter had once been inside the tower itself, according to the Beverly Hills Historical Society.

"It's a miracle that it was built at all," Phil

Savenick, president of the historical society, told the Courier. "The fact that it was built in 1932 at the height of the Depression is a tribute to the people who founded the city. They had enough clout to say let's put people to work and start building."

The tower dominates the Beverly Hills skyline and is recognized for its intricate belfry, green tiled dome and gilded cupola.

"What's remarkable about it is the exquisite workmanship that went into the building," said Savenick, noting the building's modified Spanish Renaissance style, mosaics, terrazzo tile floors, ceiling carvings and world-class art installations.

Once renovations are complete, the tower will look exactly as it has for almost 90 years. ●



The stairwell winds down five stories inside the tower at Beverly Hills City Hall. Photo by Carl Robinette

## OBITUARIES

### ~ Remembering Harry ~



It is with deep sadness that we said goodbye to our beloved **Harry** on Friday July 23 2021.

He died of natural occurrences amongst the wildflowers in the meadow at the *Virginia Robinson Gardens*.

**Harry** was our mascot, a great friend, and guardian of the gardens for 8 years. He was an anticipated advantage to spot during children's, tours and he would regularly greet tourists, photographers, caterers, and even fashion models like a real natural in Beverly Hills.

**Harry** arrived as a stray and was never claimed after trying to find his owner. He was allowed to stay at the gardens and was welcomed by all of the staff. He would often be found lounging on top of the break room fridge with employees during lunchtime or tapping on the kitchen skylight where he was safe from predators at night. The caretaker loved **Harry** like a best friend and made sure **Harry** received regular affection, was well fed and attended to during the nighttime.

**Harry** could often be found hiking throughout the gardens stopping at all the water features to take a sip, observing the hummingbirds, and attentively watching for the lizards on the walls. He was helpful in the vegetable garden and never allowed any grasshoppers or rats, and that squirrel knew better than to mess with him. He was cool with the chickens, ducks, the parakeets and even the owl, and they were cool with him.

**Harry** only wanted love, and he received it from multiple sources of people throughout his entire life at the *Virginia Robinson Gardens*. He had his own Instagram account with sincere followers where he was the epitome of the #BeverlyHillsCat. He lived a luxurious life with all the little necessities like fresh healthy food, exercise, abundant water, clean air, and human contact. He knew that he was very fortunate to be living amongst so much beauty and so he lived each day and night to its fullest.

More Pictures of Harry On Instagram: @HarryTheHipCat

## PUBLIC NOTICES

The following is/are doing business as:  
MGI INVESTMENTS, LLC  
1801 Century Park East 25th Fl., Los Angeles, CA 90067;  
MGI Investments, LLC 1801 Century Park East 25th Fl., Los Angeles, CA 90067;  
The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed July 2016: Theingi Cossar, CEO: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: July 12, 2021; Published: July 23, 30, August 06, 13, 2021 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
2021156720

The following is/are doing business as:

1) BENMO 2) BENMO USA 6646 Colgate Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90048; Benmo LLC 6646 Colgate Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90048; The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed August 2019: Roy Benmoshe, CEO: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: July 12, 2021; Published: July 23, 30, August 06, 13, 2021 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
2021156724

The following is/are doing business as:

DAVID J. BAILEY DBA WASHINGTON PLACE APARTMENTS 439 N. Canon Dr. #300, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; David J. Bailey 439 N. Canon Dr. #300, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed January 2000: David J. Bailey, Owner: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: July 12, 2021; Published: July 23, 30, August 06, 13, 2021 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
2021144644

The following is/are doing business as:

1) SNT PERFORMANCE 2) STREET AND TRACK PERFORMANCE 843 Florence Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044; Sergio Huapaya 3843 Florence Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed June 2021: Sergio Huapaya, President: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: June 29, 2021; Published: July 30, August 06, 13, 20, 2021 LACC N/C

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS FOR THE ON-CALL PAVEMENT REPAIRS WITHIN THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

**BIDS** – Electronic Bids for the **ON-CALL PAVEMENT REPAIRS** within the City of Beverly Hills, California, will be received up to the hour of 2:00 p.m., on Thursday, August 5, 2021 at via Planetbids. Bid results will be sent to all bidders through Planetbids and award of the contract will be made during a subsequent meeting of the City Council.

### SCOPE OF THE WORK

The work to be done shall consist of furnishing all the required labor, materials, equipment, parts, implements, supplies and permits necessary for, or appurtenant to, the construction and completion of the project indicated above in accordance with Standard Drawings and the Specifications prepared for this project. In general, the project consists of asphalt and concrete pavement, curb & gutter, and general right-of-way repairs. The project is on-call, project lists will be provided with locations in Beverly Hills and West Hollywood. This project is a one (1) year contract with the option for the City to extend for another two (2) years in one (1) year increments.

The contract documents, including plans and specifications may be viewed and downloaded from the City's PlanetBids portal:

<https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=39493>

**CITY CONTACT** – Any questions or requests for information can be directed to the project manager, Manu Paul S. Dhaliwal, P.E., through PlanetBids no later than 12:00 PM, July 29, 2021.

**PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION NUMBER** – The Contractor is required to register with State of California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) and meet require-

## PUBLIC NOTICES

ments to bid on public works contracts. A Public Works Contractor Registration No. shall be submitted with the bid. All subcontractors are also required to register with the DIR.

### BIDDER'S SECURITY:

In accordance with Public Contract Code Section 20170 et seq., each Proposal shall be accompanied by cash, a certified or cashier's check payable to the City, or a satisfactory Bid Bond in favor of the City executed by the Bidder as principal and an admitted surety insurer as Surety, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount set forth in the Bid.

In compliance with Public Contract Code Section 3300, the City has determined that the Bidder must possess the following license(s): **"A"**

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE (Division 6 of the Commercial Code) Escrow No. L-039672-JL

(1) Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named Seller(s) that a bulk sale is about to be made on personal property hereinafter described.

(2) The name and business addresses of the seller are: **CM ASIAN RESTAURANT INC, 141 SOUTH ROBERTSON BLVD, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90211.**

(3) The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is:

(4) The name and business address of the Buyer(s) are: **ASAKUMA GROUP INC, 141 S. ROBERSTON BLVD., BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90211-2801.**

(5) The location and general description of the assets to be sold are: **FURNITURE, FIXTURE AND EQUIPMENT, TRADENAME, LEASEHOLDER IMPROVEMENT AND COVENANT of that certain**

## PUBLIC NOTICES

business located at: 141 SOUTH ROBERTSON BLVD, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90211.

(6) The business name used by the seller(s) at said location is: **ASAKUMA SUSHI**

(7) The anticipated date of the bulk sale is **AUGUST 3, 2021**, at the office of **TOWER ESCROW INC, 3400 W. OLYMPIC BLVD, #201, LOS ANGELES, CA 90019**, Escrow No. **L-039672-JL**, Escrow Officer: **JOANNE LEE**

(8) Claims may be filed with Same as "7" above.

(9) The last date for filing claims is: **AUGUST 2, 2021.**

(10) This Bulk Sale is subject to Section 6106.2 of the Uniform Commercial Code.

(11) As listed by the Seller, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer are: **NONE**  
Dated: **JULY 1, 2021**  
**TRANSFEREES: ASAKUMA GROUP INC, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION**  
**ORD-376020**

### NOTICE –

Fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (See Section 14400, et seq., Business and Professions Code).

## PUBLIC NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
CASE NO:  
21STCP02231  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
In the Matter of the petition of:

Sherman Edward Jackson

To all interested person(s):

Petitioner: Sherman Edward Jackson

filed a petition with the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles,

111 North Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012,

Stanley Mosk Courthouse,

on July 12, 2021 for a Decree changing names as follows:

Present Name: Sherman Edward Jackson

Proposed Name: Derrick David NoHeart

The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: August 23, 2021

Time: 10:00am Dept: 74 Room: 735

The address of the court is: Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles,

111 North Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012,

Stanley Mosk Courthouse.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the information in the foregoing petition is true and correct.

Signed: Sherman Edward Jackson

Judge of the Superior Court

## PUBLIC NOTICES

Michelle Williams Court, Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/ Clerk,

By: Nick Miramontes, Deputy Clerk

Dated: July 12, 2021 Published: July 16, 23, 30, August 06, 2021 Beverly Hills Courier

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
2021156722

The following is/are doing business as:

1) LICK MAGAZINE 2) LICK MAG 3) LICKMAG.COM 4) LICKMAG.NET 5) LICKMAGAZINE.COM 6) LICKMAGAZINE.NET 7) LICKSHOP.COM

311 N. Robertson Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211; BZI Media Services, Inc. 311 N. Robertson Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed January 2013: Barbara Zawlocki, President: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: July 12, 2021; Published: July 23, 30, August 06, 13, 2021 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
2021156718

The following is/are doing business as:

1) SNT PERFORMANCE 2) STREET AND TRACK PERFORMANCE 843 Florence Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044; Sergio Huapaya 3843 Florence Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed June 2021: Sergio Huapaya, President: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: June 29, 2021; Published: July 30, August 06, 13, 20, 2021 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
2021156718

The following is/are doing business as:

1) SNT PERFORMANCE 2) STREET AND TRACK PERFORMANCE 843 Florence Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044; Sergio Huapaya 3843 Florence Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed June 2021: Sergio Huapaya, President: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: June 29, 2021; Published: July 30, August 06, 13, 20, 2021 LACC N/C

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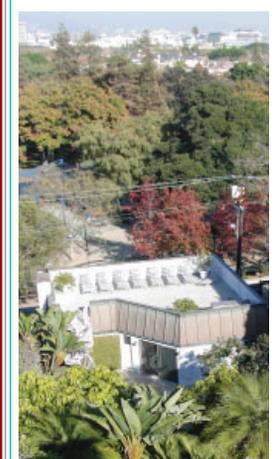
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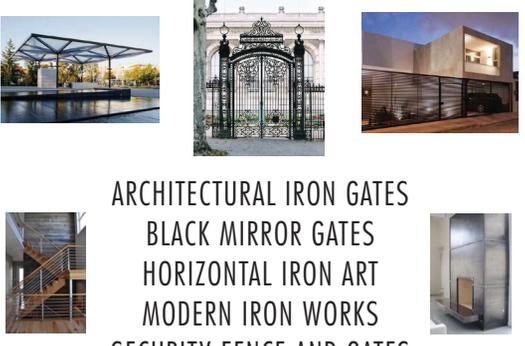
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